

VZCZCXYZ0000
OO RUEHWEB

DE RUEHAM #2526 1001405
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
O 101405Z APR 06
FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9489
INFO RUEHXX/ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS AMMAN 002526

SIPDIS

SIPDIS
SENSITIVE

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PHUM](#) [KISL](#) [JO](#)
SUBJECT: DETAINED ISLAMISTS RELEASED

REF: AMMAN 2496

11. (SBU) According to the website of the Islamic Action Front (IAF), Jordanian authorities have released "most" of the IAF activists who had been detained over the last few days (reftel). A statement by IAF Secretary General Zaki Bani Irsheid posted on the site claimed that "around 20" party activists had been detained for distributing leaflets calling for Jordanians to observe a two-hour strike to protest the lifting of fuel subsidies, but that "most had been released." IAF member of parliament Azzam Huneidi told the press on April 9 that 40 IAF members were arrested, but that only three remained in custody in the northern city of Irbid.

12. (SBU) Huneidi and fellow IAF MP Zuhair Abu Al-Ragheb, along with Jordanian Bar Association President Saleh Al-Armouti, organized a last-minute rally during the April 9 work stoppage at a mosque in downtown Amman to blast the GOJ's action on subsidies. Security forces did not interfere with the event, which was reportedly attended by less than 30 people. A sit-in outside of parliament planned for April 10, and sponsored by a coalition of opposition political parties (including the IAF), was canceled after the governor of Amman refused to grant the required permit.
HALE